

EASTERN MONTANA IMPACT COALITION



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Who is the EMIC?

Exhibit No. 1
Date 7-10-13
Bill No. HB 213

The Eastern Montana Impact Coalition is a collaboration of three Economic Development Districts and one Local Development Organization serving 16 counties in eastern Montana. The coalition leverages resources and coordinates services for its counties and communities to encourage planning, housing development, and obtaining financing for critical infrastructure.

Regional Impact Study

Goal: Identify how and when eastern Montana communities will be impacted by energy development

The study will identify specific needs of communities on a microeconomic level within the 16 county region, and prioritize those needs so that the region may wisely utilize local, state, federal and private sector resources.

- The Regional Impact Study solicited by EMIC will result in a detailed analysis for eastern Montana communities. This “roadmap” will prioritize investments needed to support and develop the infrastructure necessary to build communities that support growth and long term job creation.

Benefits to the State of Montana:

As energy development continues to grow in eastern Montana, it will be essential that communities have an understanding of what impacts they will experience, and have a “roadmap” identifying those impacts. This study will identify and quantify impacts so that communities can plan for growth. This approach to planning will lead to developing solid, sustainable communities, continuing the growth of energy development resulting in a future for eastern Montana that will continue to contribute to the State’s overall economy. By investing now in this planning effort for eastern Montana, the State of Montana as a whole will see immediate benefits leading to job creation and retention. This proactive approach will lead to solid, long term investments that will support Montana’s economic needs well into the future.

What has EMIC done to date:

- Collection of base line data on major areas of impact
- Presentation to regional legislators and government stakeholders in Helena on Impact Study goals and EMIC Mission
- Two Day Community Outreach Event planned to held in Miles City
- Preparing summary report on macro level impacts

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Impact Study Expansion (\$360,000)

“Drilling down to the Micro Level”

- Regional Analysis to provide community level implication of impacts on jobs, short & long term housing, police & fire, education, healthcare, retail services and other land use considerations.
- Analysis providing estimates of timing and cost associated with impact mitigation
- Community outreach events in each region to gather information and share findings to date
- Development of a community outreach website allowing transparent information sharing among the communities
- Outreach to private industry

Looking Forward

Clearly identifying and preparing for impacts to eastern Montana communities will enable economic growth in the region. This plan is a proactive effort to ensure wise investment of resources to the areas of highest need, leading to job creation, increased tax base and healthy communities.

The Coalition greatly appreciates your consideration for investing in this essential effort in eastern Montana.

Thank You,

Eastern Montana Impact Coalition

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